



University welcomes 10 new employees

ALEX RASH

News Editor

Despite a down economy, Northwest welcomed ten new employees to Bearcat country. The spring trimester began with one new faculty member and nine new members of staff.

Among those hired is Carma Kinman, who serves as the executive secretary for the vice president of university advancement. Kinman helps assist Vice President Mike Johnson while also helping with the foundation board for the University.

"In a down economy I think that being able to have a job is a blessing," Kinman said. "However, I feel that Northwest is reaching out to their private donors to help make up the difference in lost funds, which could make a big difference in job security."

Kinman hopes to develop more scholarships through the foundation board in the future. She graduated from Northwest in 1985.

"I am really glad to be part of the Bearcats again," Kinman said.

Environmental Services welcomed two new custodians, Geoff Smith and Kyle Jones. Nathaniel Rice began his new position of dispatcher at the University Police Department.

The Office of Residential Life brought aboard Rebecca Maier to the position of coordinator of upper class and special populations. Valyn McClellan joined as a new counselor in Personal Development and Counseling Services.

Also new to the Bearcat community is Karen Woodard. Woodard works with the University as assistant director of the Upward Bound Math and Science Center. The UBMSC prepares high school students, specializing in math or science, for the college atmosphere.

"The people here are just so friendly," Woodard said. "Everyone is very offering and helpful."

Woodard hopes that in her new position she can help increase the percentage of students who attend and return to Northwest. Woodard is also a returning Bearcat from the class of 1998.

"I appreciate the opportunity to work here," Woodard said. "It feels like home already."

Don Ehlers joins Northwest's faculty as an instructor in the department of psychology, sociology and counseling. Michael McBride serves as coordinator of PEU and strategic research for the College of Education and Human Services. Also new, Meghaan Brinkley stands as secretary at the Northwest - St. Joseph Center.

Northwest retention rates among highest, consistent in Missouri

ASHLEY HERRING

Assistant News Editor

In an economy that has been in an ebb and flow pattern for the past few years, Northwest is happily maintaining steady retention rates among students year to year.

In 1996, Northwest became a moderately selective admissions school, meaning an ACT score of 21 or an index of 100 is required for admission. The index is determined from a combination of the student's ACT score and class rank, each worth equal importance. Northwest continues to operate under this selection process today, aside from 20 percent of each year's freshman class who are admitted below these standards.

With University retention rates fluctuating steadily between 70 and 72 percent, Northwest is retaining a higher percentage of freshmen students for a second year than other area institutions.

"With the first-year success rate, we lead our peers in the state of Missouri," Bev Schenkel, dean of enrollment management, said. "So

SEE **RETENTION** | A5

Projected budget cuts burden higher education

PHILIP GRUENWALD

Opinion Editor

Gov. Jay Nixon delivered his fourth consecutive budget proposal free of any raised taxes during his State of the State address Tuesday evening. However, that perk was offset by a 12.5 percent budget cut for higher education, which translates into \$89 million across Missouri institutions and \$4.06 million for Northwest.

Fiscal year 2013 will be the third consecutive year where Northwest operates with decreased state ap-

propriations, totaling 25 percent or \$7.7 million of our budget.

"This is a game changer," President John Jasinski said in a staff email. "If this proposal stays in place, we will be at 1998 funding levels."

Nixon's proposal recommendation must be voted on by the General Assembly. Provost Doug Dunham speculated that the final amount of cut appropriations could come in higher, but 12.5 percent is likely the final amount.

If the General Assembly adds money back into higher education,

"the governor can take it away," Dunham said. "He can do withholdings or he can line-item veto. He can't add to it. So if the legislature were to increase the cut, he can't add money back into the cut. But I don't see that as a possibility just based on what we hear in the media right now."

Through years of cuts, Northwest prided itself on retaining faculty and staff positions while other institutions eliminated jobs. This time, Jasinski suggested that Northwest cannot afford to uphold that promise.

"Our cuts will be program and service-based, and they will impact personnel," Jasinski said. All changes in programs, services and staff will be announced in early April.

The Northwest Leadership team met Wednesday morning to confer on the news that they knew would come from Jefferson City. They were disappointed with the outcome.

"We have been doing more with less over the last several years,"

SEE **NIXON** | A5

DON'T LET RESOLUTIONS GET THE BETTER OF YOU



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION LORI FRANKENFIELD | NW MISSOURIAN

General resolutions that people start at the beginning of the year are to quit smoking, use technology less, to work out more and to eat healthier.

SO, YOU SAY YOU WANT A RESOLUTION

People continually resort to New Year's resolutions though many fail to uphold

TREY WILLIAMS

Editor-in-Chief

It is over, it has come to an end and there is no going back. 2011 is in the books, the successes and failures have been recorded in individual record books, and people around the globe have replaced their calendars in preparation of starting over again.

So, you say you want a resolution? Well, people have been making New Year's resolutions for centuries, and for centuries people have failed to keep them.

What is it about sticking to a resolution you set for yourself to better your life? Some students, like junior Chris Collins, think people tend to make New Year's resolutions they have no chance of keeping.

"(People) make unrealistic ones," Collins said. "Like, 'I'm gonna lose 300 lbs this year;' well, eh, I doubt it. Or, 'I'm gonna stop smoking, cold turkey.' I just think people ask too much of themselves with

unrealistic resolutions."

Collins might be on to something. Neil Osterweil, a medical writer for webmd.com, wrote an article about New Year's resolutions and unrealistic goals people set for themselves.

"By setting more realistic goals for yourself and not limiting yourself to a once-a-year, do-or-die, all-out assault on that Everest of debt, those flabby thighs, or the hideous wallpaper you keep meaning to replace, you may find that the finish line isn't so far away after all," Osterweil said.

According to a study done by the Barna Group, 61 percent of the nation's population has made a New Year's resolution at some point in their lives. In 2010, only one out of four Americans' resolutions resulted in "significant, long-term change" to their lives. The majority of Americans said their resolutions resulted in a minor change or no change at all.

Because the success rate has proven to not be so great, some people resort to not even bothering with serious resolutions. Junior Juliana Lowe is someone who has found herself in this cat-

SEE **RESOLUTION** | A5

DESIGN | WENDY WHELAN

resolution reasoning who is most likely to make these resolutions

30% weight, diet and health
women, churchgoers, boomers

15% money, debt/finances
divorced adults, Mosais

13% personal improvement
college grads, political conserv

12% addictions
men, unmarried adults, mosaics

5% job and career goals
midwest residents, singles

5% spiritual
divorced adults

4% educational
northeast residents, hispanics



LORI FRANKENFIELD | NW MISSOURIAN

Employee Candice Smith helps a customer on Wednesday at the newly reopened Finish Line.

Finish Line applies for second chance at license

EMILY DEMAREA

Missourian Reporter

On Monday, Jan. 9, the Maryville City Council approved a city liquor license for the Finish Line convenience store on the corner of 7th and Main streets.

Keith Wood, director of Maryville Public Safety, said he believes the store applied for a city liquor license at the end of November. Wood said the store still needs to obtain a state and a county liquor license before selling alcohol again.

"Our background check is run through the state, which would be the same place that the state liquor controls would obtain their (background checks) from," Wood said. "So that part of the process should be fairly quick."

Syed Amir Raza Naqvi is the current owner of Finish Line and the holder of the new city liquor license. According to Wood, the

previous license was revoked because Finish Line was found selling alcohol to minors.

Naqvi declined answering questions from The Missourian, but did make one statement.

"Anybody who can apply for the license can go through the same process. I'm going through that same process as them," Naqvi said. "Whatever the state requirements, whatever the city requirements are, that's what we're doing. We are not doing anything special."

Wood said Maryville Public Safety will have to closely monitor the convenience store if it gets approved by the state and the county for a new liquor license.

"We are pretty aggressive on enforcing alcohol laws within the city, and they will certainly have to be subjective to compliance checks to see if they will sell to minors or not," Wood said. "So we'll just be keeping a close eye on their activity."





ERIC BAINES | NW MISSOURIAN

Senior Eric Galaske admires “Raisin” by artist Biff Bolen in the Olive DeLuce gallery. The gallery hosted the National Juried Show put together by juror Elaine King.

Judged art comes to campus

SARAH THOMACK
Missourian Reporter

Bubble wrap, typewriters and fish hooks are just a few of the materials used in the current art exhibit at the Olive DeLuce Gallery. Where We Are: Tectonic Shifts and Dissolution of Boundaries (Exploring the tension and transitions in contemporary visual art today) is the exhibit that opened Tuesday night after a lecture from art historian, critic, curator and professor of the history of art, Elaine A. King. The exhibit is open until Feb. 17 and features works from all over the country.

The art show is “juried,” which means it is an exhibition featuring works that have been judged and selected by a juror, in this case, King.

“It just means that not everybody gets in it,” Martha Breckenridge, art history professor at Northwest said. “You have to be

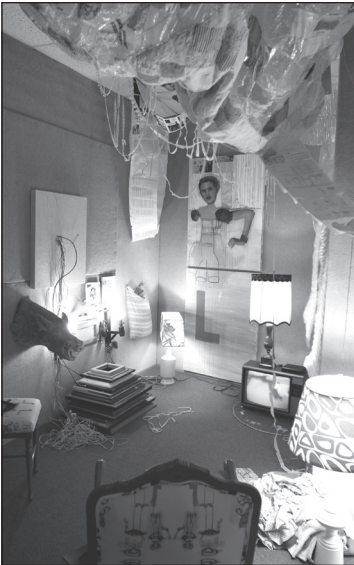
chosen to be included, which is an accolade about the quality of your work and the appropriateness to the subject matter.”

In her lecture, King spoke of “zeitgeist” which means “of your time,” or “of the moment.” She related that to artists by saying that art should be a response to where we are in time and what is important in our culture and our world right now.

“How are you, as an artist, filtering that world?” King asked.

Many examples of artists filtering the world can be found at the exhibition. With over 20 exhibits chosen, there is a wide variety of works submitted by different types of people of all ages.

“It was invigorating,” sophomore Laura Schoonover, an art student studying at Northwest, said. “Viewing the different types of contemporary art gave me some ideas of what I could do in the future.”



ERIC BAINES | NW MISSOURIAN

The Olive DeLuce galley hosted a National Juried art Show on Tuesday at the fine arts building. The event was put together by junior Elaine King.

Campus dining to host focus group

ERIC MIZENER
Missourian Reporter

As politicians tour the country to gather the opinions and views of all Americans, Northwest students are making their voices heard on the tough issues. Undoubtedly, the biggest issue across campus boils down to one simple question: What’s for lunch?

Northwest students can participate in a food-service focus group. The meeting starts at noon Jan. 31 in the Alumni Dining Room. Students can voice their opinions on all aspects of campus dining,

including whether or not a new business should replace Aramark, the current company overseeing and supplying campus dining. All of the information gathered from the meetings will influence the operations of campus dining and will help to shape the request for proposal that will go out later this year.

A dining consultant will lead the meeting with a presentation covering operations during peak hours, meal plan choices and general dining operations.

Junior Matthew Fritsch is leading the Student Senate and Student

Affairs focus group. He says these focus groups will give students the perfect opportunity to make their voices heard.

“If students hate the food on campus and think it tastes awful, they should come voice their concern,” Fritsch said. “If students do not like the current Aladine meal plan and think it should be changed, they should attend.”

Students are not the only people influencing the campus dining proposal. Athletics, Residential Life and faculty all have focus groups influencing the proposal.

“I HAVE A DREAM”



KIRA NORTHROP | NW MISSOURIAN

In honor of Martin Luther King, a poster was set out in the J.W. Jones Student Union Wednesday for students to write down their dream. Next to the poster was a board with King’s “I Have a Dream” speech.

\$35K endowments support athletics, music to honor parents of Northwest grad

ASHLEY HERRING
Assistant News Editor

Northwest Foundation Board of Directors member and Northwest graduate Mary Asbell established two separate endowments for the University in memory of her parents, Edna Mary Asbell and Bud Asbell. The two endowments give Northwest a combined \$35,000 in funding to invest for the benefit of the University’s music and athletic programs.

In honor of her mother, Mary, who graduated in ’69, created the Edna Mary Asbell Music Endowment to support students who participate in the Four State Honor Music Festival hosted by Northwest each year. Edna, who graduated from Northwest in 1936, passed away in 2009 at the age of 95. Following her graduation from Northwest, Edna pursued a career in education, teaching English and music at schools across Missouri. Practicing with and traveling to music contests with her students was one way that Edna promoted involvement in music outside of the classroom.

Edna, who taught herself to play the organ, spent 50 years volunteering to play at the First Presbyterian Church and Price Funeral Home.

“Her passion and gift of music played out in her activism in the community,” Vice President of University Advancement Mike Johnson said.

Edna was an avid supporter of Northwest’s music projects through her attendance at performances and her financial contributions.

“In addition to her love of music, my mother also supported family, community and social happenings

“Her passion and gift of music played out in her activism in the community.”

Mike Johnson

in Maryville,” Mary said in a December news release from Northwest. “Because her life touched many, and music was her passion, this endowment is specifically for high school students participating in the Four State Music Festival at Northwest.”

In honor of her father, Bud, Mary established the Eldon H. “Bud” Asbell Athletic Endowment, which will give funding to Northwest’s athletics program under the supervision of the Bearcat Booster Club.

Whether it was a front row box seat at Bearcat Stadium’s Mel Tjeerdsma Field, or court side at Bearcat Arena, Bud Asbell could be found at almost every home game cheering on the Bearcats, upholding the Bearcat Booster Club’s mission to support Bearcat Athletics as a Booster Club charter member.

When Bud was not rooting for his home team, he worked as a manager at Jackson Insurance Company and owned an independent insurance business in Maryville. Bud passed away in 1981 at age 68.

“Mary Asbell wanted her mom and dad’s memories carried out at this great institute,” Johnson said. “I love when donors carry on the wishes of their legacy, that joyful giving that memorializes loved ones.”

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Weekend Events Friday, January 20	
DeLuce Gallery: National Juried Art Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building	St. Louis Brass Quintet Concert 4:30 at Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building
MLK Jr. Week: I Have a Dream	St. Joseph Alumni and Friends Chapter Social and Dinner 6 p.m. at Geneo's
Room Change Week	Single Life Presents: Chili Cook-off and White Elephant Gift Exchange 6 p.m. at Margaret Davison Square
Sigma Society Rush Week	MLK Jr. Week: Unity Celebration 7 p.m. at J.W. Jones Student Union
Common Core State Standards Mathematics Transition for K-2 9 a.m. at Savannah School District	
Special Education Improvement Planning and Grant Writing 9 a.m. at CIE	
Saturday, January 21	
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. Community Service	Four-State Honor Music Festival Concert at 5:30 p.m. at Ron Houston Center for the Performing Arts
DeLuce Gallery: National Juried Art Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building	Green and White Visit Day 9 a.m. at J.W. Jones Student Union
Sunday, January 22	
DeLuce Gallery: National Juried Art Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building	Men's Basketball 3:30 p.m. at Emporia, Kan.
Women's Basketball 1:30 p.m. at Emporia, Kan.	Catholic Mass 7 p.m. at Newman Center

ROY BLUNT VISITS CIE



LORI FRANKENFIELD | NW MISSOURIAN

Senator Roy Blunt visited the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Wednesday on the Northwest Campus to meet with local business owners and faculty. Blunt spoke on the recent budget cuts to higher education.

Missouri governor prepares for campaign

ALEX RASH
Missourian Reporter

The time of year has almost arrived when political signs will stand in front yards, and a line will be drawn in the sand between the elephants and the donkeys.

2012 brings not only the presidential election, but also the governor's election closer to home. This year standing Gov. Jay Nixon will run as the incumbent to try to secure a second term.

"Being a college student, my main concern when choosing a candidate is how they handle higher education funding," junior Kelly Brock said. "It really isn't about being republican or democrat, it's about who will be able to deliver the most in the job at hand."

Nixon became Missouri's 55th governor in 2008. He prides himself on his work with the public education system. During the democrat's first year in office, public elementary and secondary schools received record funding. The Bureau of Labor Statistics released in Nov. that Missouri's unemployment rate dropped to 8.2 percent, which is the lowest in the last three years.

"(During his term) the governor has provided strong leadership during tough economic times," Nixon spokesman Scott Holste said. "There are a lot of things we can point to that

the governor has accomplished."

Also in the running is Republican Dave Spence, president and chief executive of Overland-based Alpha Packaging. Spence contributed \$2 million of his own money to his campaign. He holds education and job creation as his main priorities if elected. This is Spence's first campaign for a political position.

"Honestly, I think one of the best attributes I have is that I haven't been in the political system," Spence said in an interview with St. Louis Today. "I am a regular citizen trying to do something extraordinary."

Spence received some political fire over his campaign when he was embarrassingly called out on his academic credentials. His campaign page stated that he received an economics degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia, when it was actually in home economics.

Former Kansas City attorney Bill Randles also joins the race for the Republican Party. Randles graduated from Harvard in 1990. He plans to promote business activity, eliminate public sector unions and reform Missouri's current healthcare program.

"I'm not sure who I will vote for yet," Brock said. "I guess the candidates have the next 10 months to convince me."

The election will be held Nov. 6, 2012. Whoever is elected will serve from 2013 to 2017.

Maryville library hosts surplus auction

The Maryville Public Library will plan a surplus auction this week in an effort to raise money; the auction will also help move equipment and art that is no longer needed in the library.

Bidding will begin at 9 a.m. on Jan. 18 and will run through Jan. 25 at 6:00 p.m. Items being sold include

computer hardware, wooden chairs, and both vintage and framed art, along with other items from the library and community.

Items must be picked up and paid for by the end of the month. All proceeds will go into the general fund for the library.

Mozingo looks into additional lodging

A study done at Mozingo Lake this month showed that building hotel lodging at the lake could increase revenue for the future. Mozingo employees brought in Sean Skellie from IDM, LLC in Wisconsin to conduct a study on the benefits of putting hotel lodging near the lake.

The study showed that Maryville and surrounding cities like St. Joseph

have a high lodging rate, showing that there is a need for more lodging opportunities in Maryville. Skellie said that putting a hotel on Mozingo Lake would be a great asset to the community.

David Middleton, the Mozingo Maintenance Superintendent, said the project was still being looked into at this point in time.

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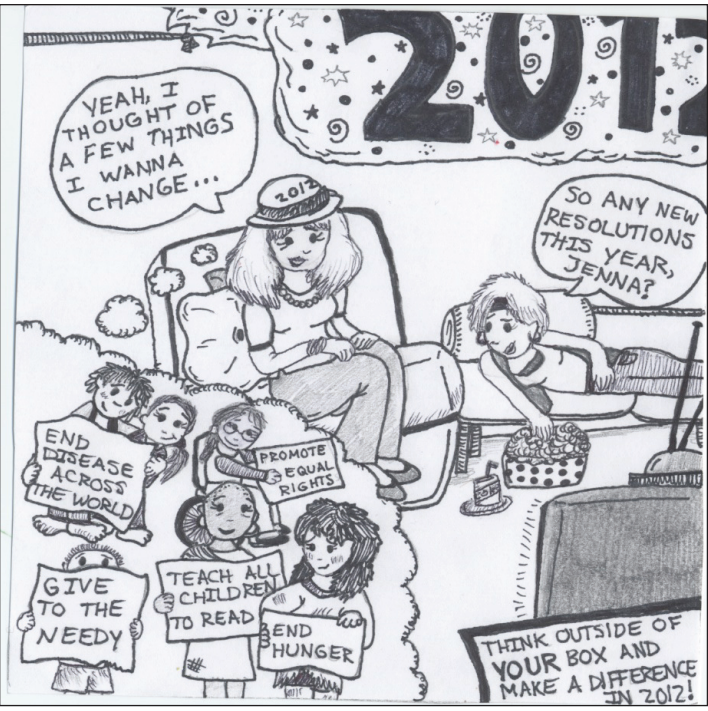
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EMILY HART | NW MISSOURIAN

OUR VIEW: 2012

Selfish resolutions out of style

Our New Year's resolutions mimic pre-flight safety briefings. Specifically, it is similar to the part when the flight attendant shows how to first strap the emergency oxygen system to your own face before helping the person sitting next to you. After all, you can't help someone else if you don't first help yourself.

While that logic does keep more airline passengers alive during an in-flight crisis, it is a lousy philosophy for a New Year's resolution, which tends to focus on self-improvement. Year after year, we promise to curtail on cookies, quit an addiction, exercise more often and live a better life. The human race seems stuck in the "safety" level of Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs, incapable of transcending to our fullest potential as a communal, social human

being.

For all the talk of fitness and self-improvement, however, Americans actually don't work out that much. Just under 50 percent of Americans exercise 30 minutes a day for three days a week, according to a 2010 Gallup survey. Comparatively, the American Heart Association recommends that amount of exercise each day to ward off heart and cardiovascular disease and improve mental wellness. Gallup also found that 31.3 percent of survey respondents did no exercise during a given week.

If we're not exercising, then what keeps us from centering our resolutions on philanthropy? Technological advancements routinely bring charities to our email inboxes, our phones' answering machines, our front doors and a smattering of multi-medium

advertisements. Many of these charities request help in unobtrusive ways. Technology allows online donations to aid organizations' funds, or simple mentions in social media to help raise awareness for their philanthropies.

To donate your time instead of money, find local nonprofit organizations online and see how you can volunteer. Northwest students, join one of the many organizations (including Christian ministries and Greek organizations) that selflessly contribute hundreds of hours of labor to those in need.

This year, do something for the community and offer your time and money. You can still exercise, but consider something more rewarding. By doing so, you will help yourself by helping someone else.

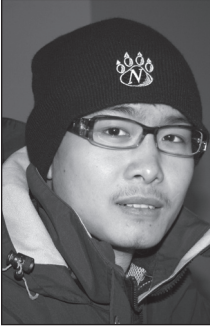
CAMPUS TALK

Are New Year's resolutions effective?



"I think it's a good idea for people to make them because it gives people goals to work towards."

Robyn Cassmeyer
Elementary and Special Ed Education



"When you have a plan and know what you're going to be doing in the year, you will make a rule for yourself. You know how you're going to do it - you know the way to be successful with it."

Tian Qui
Accounting



"I personally don't. It's not because I have anything against it or I don't think I'll keep it. I just try to make sure I stay on top of my goals and achievements throughout the year."

Missy Whitford
Spanish and Psychology



"I think that you shouldn't wait until the new year to make a resolution. If you want to better yourself, you should just do it any time of the year. I didn't make any this year."

Dominic Evans
Psychology

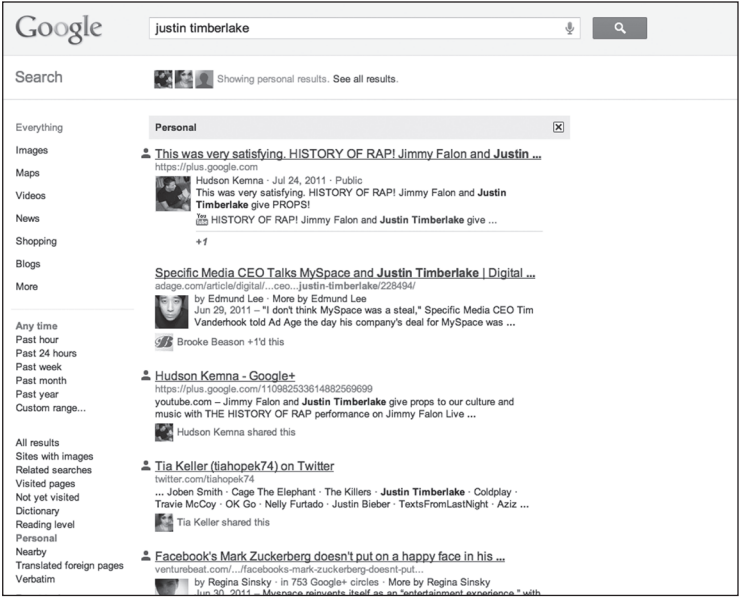


"I haven't made one at all. I probably won't. If they believe in it and actually do it, yes it helps. But if they're not going to do anything with it, then no, I think it's probably a waste of time."

Kerry Stiens
Undecided

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Screenshot of a Google search of Justin Timberlake with the new "Search Plus Your World" feature enabled.

TECH COLUMN: SEARCH PLUS YOUR WORLD

Google's privacy invasion expands to its searches

TY STEVENS
Web Developer

Google's latest, and maybe not so greatest, innovation to the search engine world may very well end up biting it in the bing! Recently Google started rolling out their latest feature, "Search Plus Your World," which finds both content that's been shared with you privately along with matches from the public web all mixed into a set of listings.

Before SPYW, "Google's social search results were blended into regular results in February 2011 and expanded to include not just content created by those you know, but also content shared by them through a variety of social networks," Danny Sullivan, a writer for searchengineland.com, said.

With SPYW, there's a new "Personal Results" view that appears. This view personalizes your listings based on your own past searches and social behavior as well as content that has been shared with you through Google+.

Sure, some could say this should be an anti-trust issue, since it seems to be designed to drive traffic straight to Google+, but that's not the main issue. If I search for something, I want to have the most relevant data returned to me

as quickly as possible.

Fortunately, Google does offer an "opt out" for SPYW, but instead, I think I'll just "opt out" of Google in general and use Microsoft's Bing engine. It may have had a rocky start, but take a second look at it. It has a clean interface that's quick, and best of all, it returns relevant data.

If I search for Timberlake on Bing, the first three results are an Entertainment Weekly article, Timberlake's actual website and a wiki entry on Timberlake. When compared to Google with the new SPYW feature, I get a Youtube video posted from a friend on his Google+ page and two separate articles on Timberlake posted from other people's Google+ pages. You tell me which seems more relevant.

I understand social media is big and important, but I don't search Google to see if my friends are posting about the topic I'm looking for because chances are, they aren't anyways. I search Google because it brings me the most relevant data the fastest.

However, with SPYW enabled, quick, relevant searches seem to have flown out the window. So for now I'll use Bing, mostly because they haven't given me the internet equivalent of the bird yet. Remember Google, don't be evil.

What would Ron Paul do with Somalia?



For the past six months, East Africa has struggled with what the U.N. calls its worst famine in 60 years. Statistics support their claim, with \$1.3 billion worth of humanitarian aid from other countries helping 13 million people in the area who need help.

But the following stats tell the complete story of aid in the region that includes Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia: 17 World Food Programme (sic) workers shot since 2008 in Somali, whose power has swayed like a deadly pendulum between varying militias since the Somali Civil War in 1991.

The United States Agency for International Development has amassed and dispersed 21,000 tons of food to the oppressed country since the beginning of the drought-related famine. But besides that, our nation has been reluctant to intervene in what is considered one of the poorest and most violent re-

gions in the world.

What would Ron Paul say about our lack of involvement? Probably something similar to, "Thank God." The libertarian-leaning presidential hopeful, whose restrained military spending ideas make him out of place in the GOP lineup, has long

"...We can eagerly anticipate less bloodshed and defense spending under President Paul in the future."

Philip Gruenwald

touted the notion of non-interventionism. It basically means that we retain free trade with foreign countries and replace militancy with diplomacy. Just don't call it isolationism.

Our erstwhile military support during Somalia's civil war notwithstanding, Paul would approve of

our current absence in the impoverished land. We have no business stationing troops there, as they are in 135 other countries. We do not recognize any established party as Somalia's central government, so aid in the form of direct funding would only become lost, and is likewise out of the question.

Paul has frequently made clear his disgust with our involvement with the U.N. We are to be loyal to ourselves and our own constitution when it comes to declaring war, he says, which is sidestepped by merely attaining U.N. approval. We began going that route in the Korean War and have continued to do so during the recent conflicts in Libya. Besides, there is evidence that shows that U.N.-Somali relations are corrupt.

If this Somali example is his foreign policy in a nutshell, we can eagerly anticipate less bloodshed and defense spending under President Paul in the future. We can still support USAID's humanitarian efforts and food donation. But Paul's non-interventionist philosophy will be a welcome relief to our current "world police" status.

Despite debt, students seek American Dream



It's the American Dream: the house, the spouse and the ultimate job that ties it all together. Many students go to college with hopes of fulfilling what their idea of the American Dream may be, only to realize after a year of loans and a little education about the economy that those dreams are completely out of reach.

Due to our economy's current predicament and the price of college tuition rising little by little every year, that light at the end of the tunnel appears smaller and smaller the older we get. Instead of students using terms such as "I can't wait to get my dream job as a ..." we hear the majority using phrases like "my dream is to actually get a job after I graduate."

The USA Today said that the amount of student loans crossed the

\$100 billion mark for the first time, and that the total loans would reach over \$1 trillion dollars this year. Truth be told, it's not just you who is drowning in debt, it's the entire country. It doesn't help that most of us are spending that money on classes that do nothing to educate us about our future. Isn't that the point of a college education?

Financial burdens aside, many students are being advised to give up their dream profession due to the lack of jobs available in their field. The Washington Post released an article last week saying that "students majoring in the liberal arts or architecture may want to rethink their degree choices in light of the job market."

For those of us not put on this earth to explore the laws of physics or slave our days away exploring the waves of mainstream technology, I express my sympathies as I will apparently be going down with you. While the future may be blurry, there is a small light of hope in our midst

as many studies still encourage us to pursue our dreams regardless of the negative outcome. That same article published by the Washington Post read, "whatever the woes of college graduates, however, the authors

"The majority use phrases such as, 'My dream is to actually get a job after I graduate.'" Amanda Schulte-Smith

of the study opined that college is 'worth it.'"

So for those of us with the courage to pursue our own interpretation of the American Dream, we shall rise above with the odds against us. After all, it wouldn't be as rewarding if the journey was easy.

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800 University Drive, Wells Hall
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www.nwmissourinews.com
northwestmissourian@hotmail.com

Laura Widmer
Student Publications Director

Sarah Wayman
General Manager/Advertising Director

Trey Williams, Editor-in-Chief
Amanda Schulte-Smith, Managing Editor
Jason Lawrence, Sports Editor
Chris Schoonover, Assistant Sports Editor
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Ashley Herring, Assistant News Editor
Philip Gruenwald, Opinion Editor
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ROYAL CARAVAN



LORI FRANKENFIELD | NW MISSOURIAN

Slugger signs the hat of a young fan at the Royals Caravan sponsored by 97.1 The ‘Ville at the Nodaway County Senior Center on Saturday.

Hudson-Perrin Hall Council receives high honor

DALTON VITT
Chief Reporter

Hudson-Perrin Hall Council was recently awarded a national honor. The National Association of College and University Residence Halls recognized the “Hudson-Perrin’s Got Talent” program from last November as a Social Program of the Month winner. Sophomore Kimmie Mollenhour won the talent contest by singing “Arms” by Christina Perri. The entire process began when

Hudson-Perrin Assistant Complex Director Garrett Gassman, a senior, nominated the program by submitting a bid for an Of The Month (OTM) award. “The Hudson-Perrin OTM that I wrote won on the national level,” Gassman said. “So it went from the campus to the region to the national level.” After being recognized at the campus level, it moved on to the regional level. The Midwest Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls then recognized it, giving the pro-

gram the opportunity to move on to the national level. “National representatives grade and judge the OTM’s that are written, and that’s how the national winners happen,” Gassman said. Contestants were assigned 15-minute time slots to perform their acts. Voting for the contest was done through text messaging by the audience. “It was really an honor just to win it at all,” Mollenhour said. “It was really cool to have the program go on and win in the national con-

test because we could show the rest of the nation how much effort our hall council put into making a great program.” Mollenhour went on to describe the contest as a fun, laid-back environment, which is part of the reason she thinks it received the honor. “I think the reason why it won is because people were able to just come in and have fun and honestly goof around,” Mollenhour said. “There was so much laughing and smiling there, it was just a really great atmosphere for all of the residents.”

RETENTION

CONTINUED FROM **A1**

the other moderately selective Missouri schools are anywhere from 36 percent to 72 percent.” Additionally, Northwest’s retention rates fall between three and five percent above the 67 percent national average. Retention rates among freshmen are tracked as the freshman success rate, last measured at 74 percent. The freshman success rate is based off first-year students who complete at least 24 credit hours with a 2.0 GPA at the end of their first academic year. Northwest also maintains a 90 percent retention rate between the fall and spring trimesters. Working off of a three-tier program, including SOAR, Advantage and freshmen seminar, the students expectations of the University and the faculty’s expectations of the students are defined and discussed, Schenkel said. “The idea is to allow them time to discuss transitional issues – academic, personal and social,” Schenkel said. “Not only is the academic component important, but they (the students) also must be able to socially, mentally and personally adjust to this environment,” Schenkel said. “There are multiple programs in place through Residential Life, the International Intercultural Affairs office, volunteerism and others that help students make friends and become

familiar with the resources we have.” The three-tiered approach combined with professors and staff that care about the students and their individual success is what keeps students coming back each year. “The small class size allows you to know the professors and makes it easy to talk to them when you have questions,” sophomore Jake Reeve said. “You’re more than a number. The professors know your name.” Northwest sophomore Joni Bean, is studying special education and deaf studies, and she chose Northwest to continue her education because of its reputations. “(Northwest) has a good teaching reputation ,and I had heard good things about the community and their sports,” Bean said. “It is awesome how they teach us about kids with special needs and for getting jobs after, Northwest is one of the best degrees you can have.” Even students who stray away sometimes have the desire to return to the quaint, small-town University. Classified junior Dan Harr, attended Northwest for two years before returning to Omaha and attending a community college for one year. He returned to the University this year. “Being at Northwest, you get the true college experience that schools in big cities can’t provide,” Harr said. “The small-town location, size of the classes and the professors brought me back. (Northwest) makes the experience about the students. They truly want you to succeed.”

NIXON

CONTINUED FROM **A1**

Dunham said. “So when the governor said that we need to become more efficient, I encourage him to come talk to our faculty. At Northwest, we have the highest student to faculty ratio.” Nixon acknowledged the budgetary pressures throughout his address. Cuts are needed to compensate for a \$500 million hole in the state’s budget of roughly \$23 billion. The Democratic governor began his speech by pitting the upcoming financial challenges of fiscal year 2013 against the hard work and resiliency of Missouri citizens. “The people of the Show-Me State are stubborn and self-reliant,” Nixon said. “Missourians don’t want a bailout. Missourians just want an opportunity to succeed.” Nixon’s jobs-focused speech also unveiled his Missouri Works plan, a seven-step strategy that outlines ways to create more jobs in Missouri. The first step was “Grow more auto supplier jobs in Missouri,” which Nixon endorsed with two examples of domestic auto makers building new models in Missouri. This includes a new line of vans to be produced at Ford’s plant in Claycomo, a northeast suburb of Kansas City, and a new truck production line in Wentzville, located west of St. Louis. Demand for these 3,260 new jobs will be high, Nixon estimated, and the competition “will be stiff.” Critics of Nixon’s plan, such as Representative Tim Jones, responded by questioning Nixon’s ability to follow through on some of his promises. According to the Republican representative, Nixon’s strategy will not help enough of the 250,000 currently unemployed Missourians. Other critics are unsure how Missouri higher education institutions will cope with a 12.5 percent reduction in state appropriations. “This is a tough message for higher education, but we have a choice in how we respond,” Jasinski said. “The Northwest Leadership Team met this morning, and I pledge our full commitment to our students and to you.”

RESOLUTION

CONTINUED FROM **A1**

egory year in and year out, but she said this year will be different. “I think (New Year’s resolutions) are a good idea, but I don’t know; I feel if you want to make changes in your life you don’t really need a holiday or something to make that happen, you should just do that on your own,” she said. “(This year) I’m just trying to get ready for spring break, just picking up with being healthy, focusing on school, not being distracted, stuff like that. “I’ve never stuck with a New Year’s resolution. But this is something that has to do with my actual life so it’s time to grow up. Usually, I don’t make serious ones anyway.” Unrealistic resolutions have proven to be a problem for people in the past who have fallen short, but for freshman Ryan Wheeler, falling short had its rewards. Wheeler set his sights high and though he did not meet them, it still brought out the best in him. “One of mine in high school was to get a 4.0 GPA and I didn’t,” Wheeler said. “I just set that so that I could try and get the best I could, and I still got a pretty good GPA that semester.” The Barna Group’s study showed that the majority of New Year’s resolutions, 30 percent, revolve around weight, diet and health followed by money, debt and finances at 15 percent. According to usa.gov, the most common New Year’s resolutions yearly are lose weight, manage debt and save money, get a better job, get fit, eat right, get a better education, drink less alcohol, reduce stress, take a trip and volunteer to help others.

So, are these too much to ask? Why do the majority of Americans fail to follow through with their resolutions? Senior Ellyn Grassmuck agrees with the theory that people make them unrealistic, so she has decided to just stick to the small things. “I think it’s kind of pointless when people try and change a major thing when they should just do that every day,” she said. “My New Year’s resolution is to stop saying ouch when things don’t really hurt. I used to do that all the time. I want to start saying please and thank you more often, eat healthier. You know, just the little things. “Things that mean a lot to me but aren’t necessarily like, ‘I need to quit smoking, I need to get all As,’ I mean, you should do that every day.” For centuries, people have used Jan. 1 as a restart button, as a way to build on the year prior and better themselves, or as a way to completely reinvent themselves. But history shows their goal is rarely met. Collins refuses to be part of the statistic that says 61 percent of people have had a New Year’s resolution; he feels it is nothing more than a gimmick. “I’ve never really had a New Year’s resolution,” he said. “I see them as a way to excuse everything that happened in the prior year.” A study in 2011 by University of Scranton psychologists found that over time, people’s success at keeping New Year’s resolutions drop. But hey, that’s no surprise. Starting Jan. 7-14, 71 percent of people were successful and 29 percent failed. By July 1, 46 percent were still successful but 54 percent failed.

The study also found, however, that those who didn’t make a resolution fared much worse. By July 1, four percent were successful at sticking with their resolutions and 96 percent failed. What does this say about New Year’s resolutions? Here is a little piece of advice, keep it simple, take baby steps, don’t bite off more than you can chew. And when your New Year’s resolution is set in stone and the clock strikes 12, tear a page from the “Galaxy Quest” handbook, “Never give up, never surrender.”

We’ve seen you on campus.

We’ve seen you at games.

We’ve seen you at parties, being oh so lame.

Tower has seen you everywhere but wait ‘til we show you, we’ll try to be fair.

Check out the dirt we have on you; the 2012 Tower arrives in late April.

Blotter from the Maryville Department of Public Safety

- Jan. 6
There is an ongoing investigation of property damage at 400 block West Fifth Street.

Westley A. Wooten, 25, Maryville, Mo., was charged with careless and imprudent driving at 500 block West Eighth Street.

Joseph R. Everhart, 21, Maitland, Mo., was charged with a warrant for failure to appear at 400 block N Market Street.

An accident occurred between Tristan J. Sherlock, 16, Maryville, Mo., and Adam J. Thompson, 16, Maryville, Mo., at 1600 block South Main Street.

Jan. 5
An accident occurred between Janis K. Kline, 73, Maryville, Mo., and Robert K. Staashelm, 48, Maryville, Mo., at 1200 block South Main Street.

An accident occurred between Tanner

J. Turnbull, 22, Maryville, Mo., and Jonathan A. Sparks, 23, Maryville, Mo., at North Main and East Fifth Street.

Jan. 4
An accident occurred between William R. Hargrave, 16, Maryville, Mo., and Jennifer M. Seipel, 22, Maryville, Mo., at South Market and East Lieber.

There is an ongoing investigation of fraud at 1300 block South Main.

Jan. 3
An accident occurred between Rena I. Burson, 47, Maryville, Mo., and Kenneth L. Jermain, 45, Burlington Junction, Mo., at 100 block West Lieber.

Jan. 2
There is an ongoing investigation of assault at 100 block South Buchanan.

Dec. 31
John E. Rauch, 21, King City, Mo., was charged with careless and imprudent driving at 500 block North Main Street.

Dec. 30
There was a fire report and smoke investigation at 27000 block 242nd Street.

An accident occurred between Titus L. Schrock, 24, Burlington Junction, Mo., and Andrew J. Schieber, 34, Clyde, Mo., at 100 block South Main.

Automotive

Small family owned trucking company looking for OTR driver. Health insurance, great benefits and paid vacations. Hopper or dry van division. 800.831.5740

Housing

For Rent: 2 bedroom apt. only 3 blocks from campus. NO PETS, NO SMOKING. Hardwood floors, New Carpet. \$500/month. 660.582.7160. 714.5 Filmore.

Retail

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660.582.5301

Other

Need something you wish to sell, trade, promote or otherwise publicize to a college audience? Then place a classified ad with the Northwest Missourian. Call 660.562.1635 for details.

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CENTER

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Thurs. 1:30 pm - 5:30 pm

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Ad
Here

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Food & Entertainment | Retail & Automotive | Wellness & Health

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

Across
1 Last of three Catherines
5 Plot
10 Pathfinder org.
14 Natural balm
15 Last of the Oldsmobiles
16 Old Persian poet
17 Folio part
18 Word of thanks
19 Corn detritus
20 Approval from a Cádiz resident?
23 High-and-mighty
24 Cambridge business school
25 Pair of barbershop groups
27 Admission req. for 24-Across
29 Approval from Louis XIV?
33 Code on some NYC-bound luggage tags
36 Cambridge Conservative
37 Jack's UN ambassador
38 Markers
39 They're sometimes special
40 Approval from a shocked Scot?
42 "Fake is as old as the ___ tree": Welles
43 It has some smart Alecs
44 "Full House" co-star
47 Place to get bogged down
50 Approval from a sushi chef at the lunch counter?
55 Rough talk
56 Indira's son
57 50-and-up group
58 Concerning
59 Encourage none too gently
60 Nursery rhyme tub assembly, e.g.

61 Sharpen
62 Rutabaga, for one
63 Squeezed (out)

Down
1 Chiromancer's reading material
2 Like the northern Lesser Antilles, vis-à-vis the Windward Islands
3 Sporty two-seaters
4 Sugar plant
5 Carved sardonyx
6 Bright-eyed
7 Smoothie ingredient
8 Conquistador's chest
9 Tender cut
10 Margarita choice
11 ___ acid
12 It might be caliente
13 "Catch-22" actor
21 "Africa" band
22 Morales in movies
25 Name of four Holy Roman emperors
26 Rough waters
27 Source of milk for chèvre
28 Sierra Club's first president
30 Third-oldest U.S. university
31 Yemen's chief port
32 Corp.-partnership hybrid
33 One garnering lots of interest
34 Chaps
35 Cruising
38 Support for a Salchow
40 Ron Howard send-up

Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

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Answers for the Jan 12 issue.

of reality shows
41 Apple on a desk
42 Sniggling gear
44 Frozen margarita insert
45 Teeming (with)
46 Chansons de ___:
47 Dead end, workwise
48 Drab color
49 Rootless sort
51 Aforetime
52 Mount Ka'ala is its highest peak
53 R&B singer India ___
54 Touch or shuffle

Horoscopes:

Aries (March 21-April 19)
Aries, you're in a good mood, and you begin to express your inner child this week. You want to participate in as many activities as you can.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)
Taurus, your idealistic view of work this week may win you extra points with the boss. This is especially true if you continue to put your head down and work hard.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)
Gemini, although the week proves to be

very busy, somehow you're able to sail through without a worry. That's ideal for keeping stress levels at a minimum.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)
Cancer, things seem to be even keel at home, but there is something that will pop up this week that will catch you off guard. Stay alert and you will handle it effectively.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)
Leo, your physical energy is high this week, and that gives you a little more hop in your step. It also enables you to get a

lot of things accomplished.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Virgo, you like to work behind the scenes and not be the center of attention. But this week you may be even more out of the limelight than ever. Others may wonder if you're there.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Libra, your fantasy life is very vivid right now, and it may put a little fun and spice to your everyday activities. Find inspiration through dreams and other desires.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Scorpio, you could have a series of very productive days this week. You are at the top of your professional game and are actually enjoying the feeling of power.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Sagittarius, getting together with a few coworkers or friends and having a night out could be just what you need this week. It's time to relax and kick back.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You have specific goals, Capricorn. But you can't let ambition rule your life.

Metro Creative Connection

Sometimes it is best to just enjoy the moment and the people around you.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Aquarius, others may want you to explore uncharted territory. While momentarily sceptical, you soon could realize this is an opportunity that does not come along too often.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)
Pisces, though you may try to keep your feelings to yourself this week, it won't be hard for others to discern your mood.

Make them go awww with the Valentine's Day
Directory appearing in the Feb. 9 issue.
Call 660.562. 1635 for details.



Socially awkward and isolated.

They're really smart and ruin the class curve.

The kid that is forced to study.

The kids that are stuck in a building all to themselves.

Young and little.

Can't play sports.

The kids that sit in their rooms and don't come out.

WHO ARE THE ACADEMY KIDS

JR Robertson starts his day at 8 a.m. each morning of the week. He crawls out of his bed and spends the first few hours of his day drudging through class work and studying. He attends classes throughout the day, and afterward he plays basketball at the Student Recreation Center.

This could be a normal day for any Northwest student, but Robertson isn't a traditional student at Northwest. He's 18 years old and a student at the Missouri Academy; Robertson says he loves being a student at the Missouri Academy but not the stereotype.

"The kid that is forced to study because we have mandatory study hours," Robertson said about the stereotype. "The kids that sit in their rooms, don't come out and are stuck in a building all to themselves. They're really smart and ruin the class curve. Young and little. Can't play sports. Don't engage outside their building with anyone else."

Robertson says this in the main lounge of the Missouri Academy building, which has a similar atmosphere to a freshmen dorm. A flat screen TV hangs on the wall, heavily used video game systems lay under it and the furniture is in disarray. He has to push a coffee table aside and pull a chair to a more reasonable position so he can sit down.

"Part of it (the stereotype) is true but extremely exaggerated," Robertson said.

Brianna Cagle, another student at the Missouri Academy, agrees with Robertson.

"I think some people think that way but once they get to talking to us, they treat us the same as any other student," Cagle said.

Robertson doesn't appear to reflect the stereotype. He is a former varsity baseball and soccer player and participates in intramural basketball. His dorm room doesn't reflect a highly organized student either. Piles of clothes are scattered throughout his half of the room, and just enough space is available on his desk for him to work. He picks a basketball off the ground and spins it on his finger as he talks about how he spends his free time.

"I just hang out with other students... I can go to the Rec Center and ball or go to the station and get food. I know college students, and I'm friends with them, but I wouldn't hang out with them on any regular basis. It's entirely Academy students."

There are rules that regulate how they can spend their free time. They must be in their dormitory building by 8 p.m. during the week and on their assigned floor by 10:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. on weekends. They can't go into any other residence halls and must get permission to leave campus.

"There are plenty of restrictions at the Academy, so that makes it kind of hard," Cagle said. "It can be a pain sometimes, but once you get used to it, it's not that big of a deal."

Robertson came to the Academy hoping for a greater academic challenge and to experience college life. The rules aren't an issue for him, and he appreciates the space the Academy grants.

"You have more freedom," Robertson said. "My parents aren't around to say you need to do this or that. Those sorts of things. You have more abilities to choose what you want to do at

whatever time you want to do it.

Robertson says the Academy is not an anti-social environment but a community within the larger Northwest community.

"Everybody (in the Academy) already has one thing in common and that's we are all high schoolers taking college courses and we're all pretty smart," Robertson said. "So just on that basis it's kind of easier to connect with everyone in the building because we all have that one similarity."

There are cliques just like in a normal high school. We have people who are good at sports, people that are super-good at school in general and that are just like geniuses and people that just like to have fun all the time and will hang in the main lounge for hours."

While the Academy is a self-contained community, with its own social circles, its members seek to be a part of the Northwest community. Cagle regularly attends meetings at the Baptist Student Union, and Robertson is a member of the National Resident's Hall Honorary and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

"I definitely want to be a part of Northwest for the two years I am here," Robertson said. "And to get to know what it's like outside of this building. The whole life is different. The food, being able to go the Rec Center, all around campus. I love being at Northwest."

The stereotype might be strong outside the Academy, but inside, students are indifferent to it. They are aware of its existence, do not believe it to be true and seem to not care if it exists or not.

BY BEN LAWSON FEATURES EDITOR
DESIGN BY WENDY WHELAN DESIGN EDITOR

The albums to spin in 2012

BEN LAWSON
Features Editor

2012 seems as if it could be another big year for music. Major releases have been confirmed, some with no date set and some still shrouded in rumors. These are some of the biggest releases music fans can expect or pray for in 2012.

The Killers – Battle Born

After taking a brief break in Jan. 2010, the indie rock group reunited in May 2011 to begin work on their latest project. Frontman Brandon Flowers stated their new project will be more guitar-heavy than previous releases but won't differ too far from past albums. After three platinum albums, big things can be expected from The Killers' latest project. The band hopes to release it sometime this summer, but no release date has been set.

Paul McCartney – Kisses on the Bottom

The former Beatle has been hard at work on his fifteenth solo album, "Kisses on the Bottom," scheduled for release Feb. 7. "My Valentine" is the first song released from the album featuring Eric Clapton on guitar. McCartney has stated the album is "very tender, very intimate." Based on McCartney's history it's safe to assume the album will be worth a listen.

Green Day – TBA

The punk giants have announced they are working on their ninth studio album. No title or release date has been set, but the band announced in a broadcast with Ustream they have written 30 songs for the album. Bassist Mike Dirnt told Radio W the band had all the material written for the album, they just wanted to

make it perfect before it was recorded and released. Hopefully, Green Day can get together soon and hammer out their latest album before punk fans burnout.

Rage Against the Machine

It's been 12 long years for Rage Against the Machine fans, but it appears another studio album may be in the works. The band, known for their loud, angry and politically fueled music, called it quits in 2000, but lead singer Zack de la Rocha told a Chilean newspaper in 2010 that the band is planning on releasing another studio album. Guitarist Tom Morrello denies this claim, so all fans can do is hope and pray the group can channel all their rage into the machine and pump out one more album. Cross your fingers but don't hold your breath, there may be a long wait ahead.

Queen – TBA

One of the most legendary rock groups ever recorded, Queen, officially announced they are working on a new album for release sometime this year. Even bigger yet, the group announced they will record using lost demos of late frontman, Freddy Mercury. And if that's not enough to raise your eyebrows, the group will also release a series of duets with Mercury and Michael Jackson. With Jackson and Mercury both deceased, the releases will likely be very rough but it's still a culmination of two the biggest music icons the world has known.

Smashing Pumpkins - Oceania

Smashing Pumpkins has always been driven by frontman Billy Corgan, but Corgan announced their latest project will be a compilation of efforts from all current band members. The

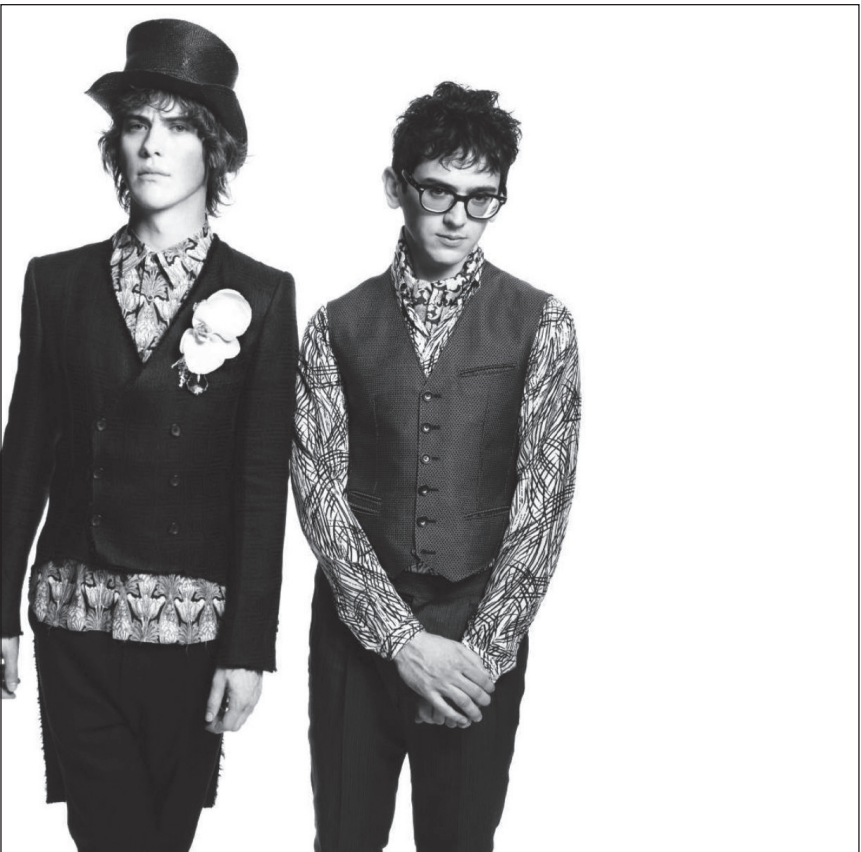
album was originally scheduled for release Sept. 11, 2011 but was pushed back to sometime in 2012. Bassist Nicole Fiorentino said the album has a "familiar, old-school Pumpkins feel to it with a modern twist." Corgan typically records all the instrumental parts himself, but the entire band pulled together for this one. This is a pretty interesting turn for the group. Regardless, this is a "must-hear" for alternative rock fans.

Kid Cudi – WZRD and Man on the Moon III

Nov. 13, 2011 Kid Cudi announced his upcoming rock project, WZRD, will release on his 28th birthday, Jan. 30 2012. A rock project from Kid Cudi isn't surprising after tracks like "Erase Me" from his last studio album were very rock centered. The rap artist has definitely shown a skill and affinity for the rock genre, so a rock album could prove promising. Kid Cudi also announced in Aug. 2011 he is still working on "Man on the Moon III." Based on the title, it can be assumed the album won't stray too far from previous releases. Kid Cudi promised big things for 2012; hopefully, the result can hold up to fan's expectations.

MGMT – MGMT

Spin magazine quoted the psychedelic rock group as saying they will have less freedom on their third self-titled album due to poor reception of "Congratulations," their last album. The band later told Pitchfork those statements weren't true. Regardless, the production of their upcoming album seems shaky. Hopefully, the band can smooth the waters and put out an album as good as or better than their first record, "Oracular Spectacular."

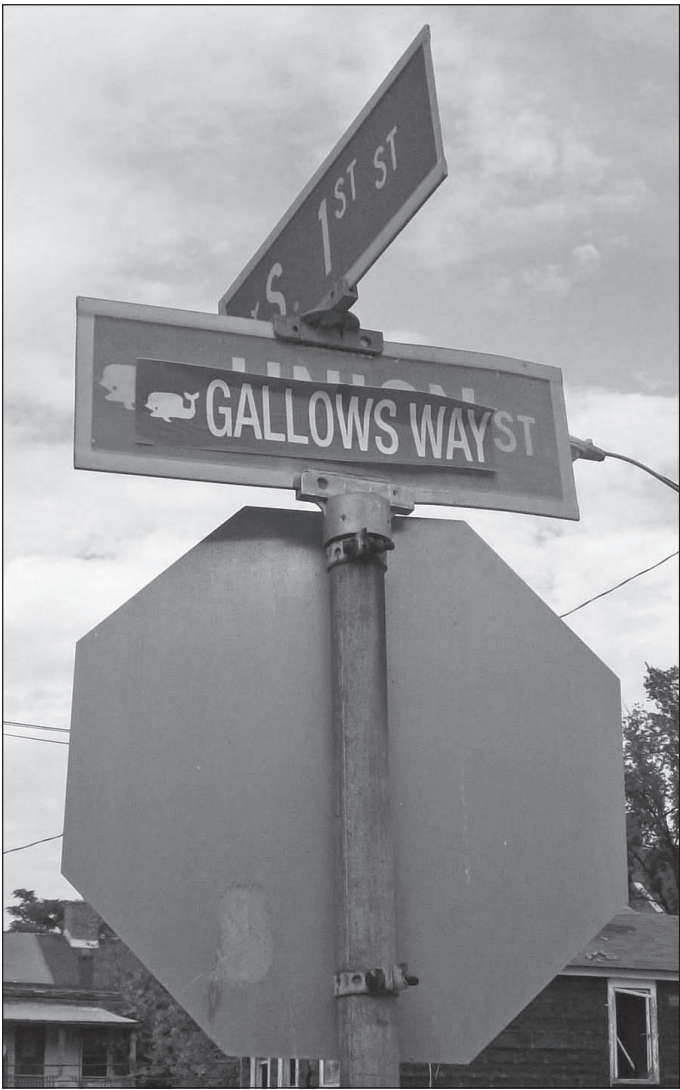


WASDREAMINGOFTHEPAST.BLOGSPOT.COM



FANPOP.COM

Top: MGMT and Above: The Killers are planning on releasing albums sometime this year. Neither has a release date set so all fans can do is wait and hope.



GOSSIPOFRIVERTOWN.BLOGSPOT.COM

This street sign has been renamed from its original name. Hopefully this one will provide a more colorful and accurate description.

THE STROLLER Your man wants descriptive names for campus buildings

It had been a long day. So when my "Advanced Strolling Lab" finally got out (we had just finished "How to Succeed in Strolling Without Really Trying") I was ready to relax in the reading room (which apparently isn't called the reading room anymore). But when I got there, some Nebraska-loving, Carhart-wearing ignoramus was sitting there, reading a book! Audacity of audacities! What kind of idiot actually reads in that room? I promptly kicked him out of his chair, opened my laptop and joined my brethren who use that room for its original intent: anything but reading. I Googled my name, the kid next to me tweeted relentlessly about Ray Lewis leaving the Ravens like a crazed priest foretells the apocalypse and a few Academy kids swapped spit in a corner.

The reading room isn't the only place around here that needs a name change, which is why I'm applying to become Northwest's official building re-namer. Campus Dining is my unquestionable first stop, for sheer false advertising along. First of all, it's Aramark, not Northwest, who provides the food, so "Campus" has to go. Second, we don't dine there. It's closer to piranhas swarming a bloodied cow leg, or slack-jawed camels chewing an indistinguishable slop from a dirty feeding trough. It shall henceforth be called "Stop 'N Slurp."

Bearcat Arena, Bearcat Stadium and the Student Recreation Center are known for attracting manly, sweaty guys and even manlier, sweatier girls. In fact, finding anyone even remotely near that area wearing anything but Nikes or Reeboks is about as rare as finding a virgin in Phi Mu. That entire area will now be known as "We Like Sports and We Don't Care Who Knows."

Twice a year, we all lay siege on Textbook Services and complain about long lines like the spoiled, entitled brats that we are. That office, along with Computing Services, will both be called "Gimme Gimme Gimme."

Finally, we have the Bell Tower, because calling it the Speaker Tower would just be too honest. That imposter has been misleading people since Northwest stole it from the set of a Star Trek production studio in the '70s. Besides interrupting a perfectly good class-time nap, the only thing it's good for is being tall. I propose renaming it the Maryville Space Needle and setting up a souvenir shack with postcards and t-shirts. You can read all about it, as long as you're not doing it in the reading room.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

'Contraband' feels unfinished, messy

BEN LAWSON
Features Editor

The latest flick from Mark Wahlberg ("The Fighter") starts off with a somewhat intriguing plot but falls into a mess of poorly developed characters and a chaotic plot.

Wahlberg plays Daniel Farrady, an ex-smuggler turned legitimate businessman who must pick up his old life to protect his family after his brother-in-law botches a smuggling run with a crazed drug dealer.

That's pretty much all you need to know to understand the plot. "Contraband" doesn't focus so much on developing characters and an intriguing story but instead on creating the biggest mess of a situation imaginable. The story doesn't feel like it is driven by Farraday's need to take care of his family but by how much went wrong in his smuggling plans.

The film barely allows you to grasp the motivations of the characters. Much of the movie centers around Farraday's relationship with his best friend, Sebastian, played by Ben Foster ("The Me-

chanic"). Sebastian's character is incredibly hard to understand, not because of the complexity of his character, but because of a lack of support and background information in the film.

Giovanni Ribisi ("Avatar") plays the drug dealer Farraday is smuggling for in an effort to repay his brother-in-law's debt from his botched smuggling deal. Ribisi plays the character as white trash that messily runs any illegal operation he can get his grimy hands on.

When you can actually make out what he is saying through his over-the-top Cajun accent, his character comes off more annoying and stupid than the fear-inspiring crime lord he is made out to be. It's very difficult to sympathize with the character's need to finish the smuggling run when they are acting out of fear of a bumbling idiot.

The movie never seemed to have the potential to be an incredible film, but the setting and basic plot allotted for more than the film provided. Farraday lives in New Orleans with his family and friends, and he smuggles using a

cargo ship that travels to Panama City, Panama.

The film wisely uses the stress associated with running a smuggling operation on a confined and cramped cargo shipped filled and captained by an unknowing crew. Viewers briefly experience the crime dynamic in Panama City as Farraday and his cohorts are thrust into a dangerous armored car robbery. But the film draws very little from the unique cultural atmosphere of New Orleans.

In a movie like this, where the acting is weak and the story is weaker, viewers can at least expect a lot of action but this film doesn't even provide that. Only one scene in the film comes close to satisfying this need but it's not enough to keep the movie exciting.

The filmmaker's choices for setting aides the film but not enough to save the movie from its messy plot and under-developed characters. The action sequences were even too few and far between to help its case. The film doesn't just suffer from one fatal flaw, it's just a poorly crafted film that feels as if more time needed to be spent on its writing.



COLLIDER.COM

Above: Mark Wahlberg in "Contraband." After his last film, "The Fighter," was nominated for two Oscars his latest proved disappointing.



Actors: Mark Wahlberg, Kate Beckinsale, Ben Foster
Director: Baltasar Kormakur
Release date: Jan. 13 2012

WHAT'S HOT

Insect named after Beyoncé

A new species of horse fly was discovered in Australia. The insect's glowing, golden hindquarters inspired the scientists to name the fly Scaptia (Plinthina) beyonceae, after Beyoncé. The researcher in charge of the project, Bryan Lessard, said the insect would keep the singer in nature's history books forever.

Octavia Spencer at the Golden Globes

It's been a slow rise for the actress, but she has finally earned a much-deserved award. She walked away from the Golden Globes with Best Supporting Actress for her role in "The Help." She's been acting since 1996, but this is the first recognition she received for her work.

Betty White's Birthday Bash

The hilarious, irreplaceable, incomparable Betty White celebrated her 90th birthday Monday with high class, the only way Betty White can. The Golden Girl watched as celebrity friends joked and reminisced about White's illustrious career. Her birthday bash was followed by her new hidden camera show, "Off Their Rockers."

WHAT'S NOT

Maryville's indecisive weather

Is it nice or is it cold, is it sunny or is it snowy? Maryville's weather is almost as indecisive as Jay-Z when trying to decide to stay in retirement or not.

George Lucas announces retirement

Lucas says his upcoming film, "Red Tails," will be the last big production he will work on. Lucas decided to switch to making smaller, "personal." He still seems to have several irons in the fire, like "The Clone Wars" TV show and a fifth "Indiana Jones" movie, so it's iffy whether or not this will hold true.

NORTHWEST SPIRIT SQUAD



KIRA NORTHROP | NW MISSOURIAN

Bearcat Cheerleaders perfect their nationals routine on Jan. 11. They were seeded third and jumped eight-time national champion West Georgia to win their second national title in three years.

BAKER

CONTINUED FROM A12

roster.

Baker appeared in 11 games and recorded three catches for 27 yards, including a touchdown against the Giants.

Baker got his first taste of the NFL life and learned valuable lessons from it.

“Not that I took off any plays, by any means, but this is usually my answer about the difference between Division II or playing at Northwest and the NFL is that every play you have to go 100 percent,” Baker said. “It’s a business, it’s a job now. Every play you have you’re being graded on. Whereas in college, you’re being graded, but your job isn’t depending on it. The thing I’ve learned is to go 1,000 miles per hour and 100 percent on every play and as cliché as it sounds, play every play like it’s your last.”

If you have never been to New York, you can assume that it is the polar opposite of Maryville, and Baker is taking it in stride, with a few exceptions.

“Being in Missouri is different than what I’m used to all together, being on the east coast,” Baker said. “It’s the fast life out here, and the thing I’ve had to get use to the most is the driving out here. It’s really crazy out here.”

New York is one of the biggest markets for sports in the world. Every move an athlete makes is magnified times 10, and Baker is fine with that because he is flying below the radar.

“That’s how it goes with being a professional,” Baker said. “Of course you can carry yourself in a different manner in college. Whether or not playing for the New York Jets is a magnifying glass, I don’t know, but I try to fly under the radar. I just try and do my job and be the best teammate I can be.”

Baker has not forgotten Northwest and remembers why it was such an important stop on his journey to the NFL.

“Playing at Northwest was the first full year that I had to actually play,” Baker said. “That helped me evolve as a player and kind of catapulted me into the position that I am in now.”

Baker’s talent was undeniable, and he has offered his experience to Northwest senior wide receiver Jake Soy as he looks to make it into the league.

“I just talked with Jake Soy the other day and talked to him about the whole process,” Baker said. “I was there a year ago and I just told him to enjoy the process and take it for what it’s worth.”

No one’s future is certain; even if you score a pivotal touchdown against the team you share a building with, with the playoffs on the line.

“That’s the nature of the business. The future is never promised,” Baker said. “I did sign a three-year contract, and hopefully, I will prove to them or open up some eyes in the organization of what I am capable of. Hopefully, next year I will have some more responsibility and have some more plays and take off from there.”

ROYALS

CONTINUED FROM A12

“We’re getting better, and (the fans) have been loyal,” Butler said. “We got the best fans in the world. I love it; I enjoy meeting new people and giving back to the people that come and watch us play.”

Joyce talked about how important she believes it is for the Royals to visit smaller towns, and visit with fans such as Riley.

“We’re their fan base,” she said. “If we don’t support them and they don’t have fans, it’s not fun playing on an empty field with no fans.”

The Royals are hoping for a breakout season this year, but know they cannot do it without their fans.

Part of what makes the Royals such a fun team to root for is the cohesiveness in the clubhouse.

“With the team that we got, everybody loves everybody,” Butler said. “It hasn’t always been like that, but we got a great group of guys now that all get along. We get out and hang out together, and

it doesn’t have to be baseball-related, we’ll just go hang out and enjoy the time together.”

These kind of events can help the players compete better on the field as well.

“Each new year is a new opportunity,” Holland said. “Getting to see the fans and the support and all that, it reminds you what you’re playing for, which is to go to the World Series and win a World Series.”

This was Duffy’s first time on the Royals Caravan, and he came away slightly surprised.

“I was aware of the support that we have,” Duffy said. “But when you see it up close and personal, how happy people get, it’s just really cool. I had a great time today.”

Duffy went on to talk about the loyalty of people around Kansas City, and how much it means to him and his teammates.

“I feel like they’ll be there no matter what,” Duffy said. “That’s how loyal our fans are. It’s great because we couldn’t do what we do without them.”

TOURNAMENT

CONTINUED FROM A10

quarter, but could not hold back the Tiger’s rally in the fourth as they jumped out to a four-point lead.

Walter hit a three in the final minutes of the game to tie it up and slow down the Tiger’s comeback.

With 15 seconds remaining, the Tigers missed two consecutive free throws, giving the ‘Hounds a shot for the victory.

With two seconds remaining, senior guard Payton Scarbrough found himself at the free throw line with a chance to seal the victory for the Spoofhounds.

Scarbrough would not disappoint, sinking one of the two

shots for the game-winner.

Scarbrough finished the contest with seven points.

Kuwitzky believes that there was a lot gained from the victory, besides just the win itself.

“I think they showed great character, especially after they lost the lead and came back and had to perform late in the game and be clutch,” Kuwitzky said. “I think they played very well.”

“I think they were extremely excited and really felt good about themselves after that

The ‘Hounds were back in action Wednesday night against Benton. Results were not available as of press time.

The Spoofhounds return to action at 5 p.m Tuesday in a MEC bout with Lafayette at Maryville High School.

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NW MEN’S BASKETBALL

MIAA STANDINGS	Overall	MIAA
NORTHWEST.....	13-2	7-2
Mo. Southern.....	14-3	6-3
Central Mo.....	10-4	6-3
Washburn.....	11-5	6-3
Pitt. State.....	10-6	6-4
Fort Hays.....	11-4	5-4
Emporia St.....	8-7	4-5
Southwest Baptist.....	10-8	3-6
Truman.....	5-11	3-6
Lincoln (Mo.).....	3-11	3-6
Mo. Western.....	6-9	1-8

January 21:
Mo. Southern at Truman
Neb.-Omaha at Washburn
Pitt. State at Mo. Western
Lincoln (Mo.) at Fort Hays
Central Mo. at S.W. Baptist

January 22:
NORTHWEST at Emporia St.

MHS BOY’S BASKETBALL

MEC STANDINGS	Overall	MEC
Lafayette.....	8-6	2-0
Cameron.....	9-4	1-0
Savannah.....	8-5	2-1
MARYVILLE.....	7-5	1-1
LeBlond.....	6-6	1-1
Benton.....	1-13	1-3
Chillicothe.....	7-7	0-1
Smithville.....	2-8	0-1

January 20:
Hogan Prep at Lafayette
Cameron at LeBlond

January 21:
Savannah at Mexico

January 24:
Lafayette at MARYVILLE

NW WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

MIAA STANDINGS	Overall	MIAA
Pitt. State.....	15-1	9-1
Washburn.....	15-3	8-1
Emporia St.....	11-3	7-2
Fort Hays.....	14-3	6-3
Central Mo.....	11-4	5-4
Lincoln (Mo.).....	10-5	4-5
Truman.....	9-5	4-5
Mo. Western.....	5-9	3-6
NORTHWEST.....	4-12	2-7
Southwest Baptist.....	5-9	1-8
Mo. Southern.....	5-10	1-8

January 21:
Mo. Southern at Truman
Pitt. State at Mo. Western
Lincoln (Mo.) at Fort Hays
Central Mo. at S.W. Baptist

January 22:
NORTHWEST at Emporia St.

MHS GIRLS’ BASKETBALL

MEC STANDINGS	Overall	MEC
Smithville.....	11-2	1-0
MARYVILLE.....	9-5	1-0
Lafayette.....	8-10	3-1
Benton.....	6-6	2-1
Savannah.....	9-3	2-2
Cameron.....	10-1	0-1
Chillicothe.....	7-7	0-0
LeBlond.....	2-7	0-2

January 19:
Clarinda (Iowa) at MARYVILLE
Benton at LeBlond
Lafayette at Falls City (Neb.)
Penney at Cameron

January 20:
Clarinda (Iowa) at Savannah

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AMANDA MONROE | NW MISSOURIAN
Junior guard Jonathan Baker drives past a Savannah opponent on his way down the court Friday, Jan. 6. Baker scored 13 points in Monday night's first round loss to Platte County in the Bashor-Linwood Tournament.

Win streak ends in 1st round

CHRIS SCHOONOVER
Assistant Sports Editor

After winning two consecutive games at home, the Spoofhounds fell to Platte County in the first round of the Bashor-Linwood Tournament Monday night. Maryville came out of the gate strong, finding themselves down three at the end of the first quarter against a talented Platte County team. "They were a really good team," head coach Mike Kuwitzky said. "They were a big and physical team." Senior guard Tyler Walter set the pace for the 'Hounds early, scoring six of the team's 15 first-quarter points.

The Spoofhounds were able to trim the lead to two at halftime, 27-25. The second half would prove to be the downfall for the 'Hounds as they were outscored 35-21 and ended falling to the Pirates 62-46. "We were flat," Kuwitzky said. "We didn't play good defense or offense. We have to play better. "We just didn't have the intensity we needed. It was just one of those games when we needed to play better. I told them after the game we have to compete all of the time and be intense all of the time..." Walter and junior guard Jonathan Baker led the way for

the Spoofhounds with 13 points apiece. "When they have a bad game, they know it," Kuwitzky said. "It's not like they ever make excuses about it. They know it. They are still young and growing and learning." Baker scored a season-high 25 points as the 'Hounds defeated Falls City (Neb.) Friday night, but Baker would not be the story of the game. Maryville would found themselves with a seven-point lead at halftime, 29-22. The Spoofhounds extended their lead to 13 points in the third

SEE **TOURNAMENT** | A9



LORI FRANKENFIELD | NW MISSOURIAN
Senior guard Sammy Keller looks for an opening past an Auburn (Neb.) defender on Tuesday at Maryville High School. The Spoofhounds beat the Bulldogs 65-49 to move their record to 9-5 on the season and give Hageman his 100th career win.

Hageman grabs 100th win, girls continue roll

CRAIG SIMS
Missourian Reporter

In his sixth season as the Maryville girls' head basketball coach, Grant Hageman reached a coaching milestone that cannot be ignored. Tuesday night's win against Auburn (Neb.) marked Hageman's 100th win as the Spoofhounds head coach. "We have had a pretty good run as of late, and it's a tribute to how much time these girls put into the game," Hageman said. "We are demanding as coaches, and they always seem to respond and put in the time it takes to be successful." The start of the game was not exactly what the 'Hounds had in mind though, as their first three possessions ended in turnovers. Senior guard Holly Wilmarth helped turn Maryville's luck around by scoring the team's first six points. Senior guard Danielle Zimmerman added six more points of her own to give Maryville the early 12-7 lead. With Maryville's full-court press in full swing slowing down Auburn in transition, the 'Hounds

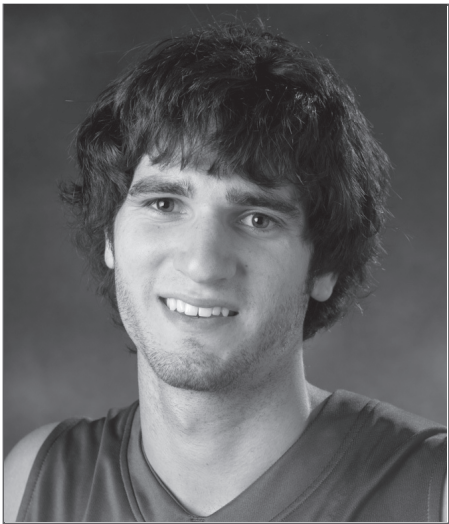
took a 17-9 lead into the second quarter. "We were pressuring them enough to take them out of their offense," Hageman said. The second quarter saw Auburn outscore the 'Hounds to narrow the lead at halftime to 26-20. Maryville's offense took off in the second half through their ability to make open shots and their overall awareness on the court. After three quarters the Spoofhounds held a 44-28 lead. The Spoofhounds held steady for a final score of 65-49. "This is the best this team has executed this season," Hageman said. "It seemed like everything we called the girls would execute correctly." Wilmarth finished with 20 points and two assists. Senior point guard Hailey Roush chipped in 13 points. Maryville (9-5, 1-0 MEC) takes on Clarinda (Iowa) at 6 p.m. tonight at Maryville High School. "We have a good momentum going right now," Hageman said. "If we can keep this going when the conference games begin, hopefully it will go right into districts, and that has been our formula of success."

ATHLETES of the WEEK



BEARCATS

Jake Reinders



Senior forward Jake Reinders posted career highs in both points (28) and rebounds (12) in the Bearcats' 78-55 victory over Southwest Baptist on Saturday.

Abby Henry



Senior guard Abby Henry dropped a career-high 30 points against Southwest Baptist on Saturday in the 79-68 win. Henry also dished out four assists in the victory.

Holly Wilmarth



Senior guard Holly Wilmarth scored 20 points in Maryville's 65-49 victory over Auburn (Neb.) on Tuesday night. She also chipped in a pair of assists in the win.

Jonathan Baker



Junior guard Jonathan Baker scored 25 points in last Thursday's 56-55 win over Falls City (Neb.) and followed it up with 13 points against Platte County Monday.

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KIRA NORTROP | NW MISSOURIAN
The Bearcat Spirit Squad performs its nationals routine Jan. 11 in Bearcat Arena. They placed first overall for the second time in three years at the Universal Cheerleading Association Collegiate Nationals in Orlando, Fla. on Saturday.

Cheerleaders bring home national title

DALTON VITT
Chief Reporter

Thanks to the Northwest cheerleaders, there is one more piece of hardware to add to the University's collection.

On Saturday, Jan. 14, Northwest captured its second cheerleading national championship in three years.

"It was just one of the most amazing feelings that I've ever experienced," senior Katie Cole said.

Head coach Jason Sack said that it was a nerve-racking few minutes while waiting for the winners to be announced because the best three squads all had near-perfect routines.

"There was a lot of nervousness at that point in time," Sack said. "We knew we had to sit and wait, and we knew that two other teams, the second and third place teams, had also done a really good job on their routines."

Cole said that being able to win with the other squads performing at their best made winning it all feel more special.

"The coolest part about it was sitting there and knowing that the top three schools hit their routines," Cole said. "Being able to win knowing that nobody else messed up their routine, also just a great feeling knowing that we were 100 percent the best team there."

Sack also talked about the buildup to having their name called.

"We were really sitting on pins and needles there for a really long time," he said. "When they called Columbus State University for third place, we knew that we at

least got to where we thought we should be. Then as they started to say the University of West Georgia, the kids really lost it because they knew they had accomplished their goals for the year."

Coming into the year, the cheerleaders knew they had a shot at nationals; they just had to make it happen.

"We decided last year after getting third that there was no way we weren't coming back and putting the best routine that we could on the floor," Cole said. "We knew we had a pretty good routine going into nationals; we just knew that we had to hit everything when we were performing...That was the goal at the beginning of the year, was to win nationals."

The Bearcat Steppers went into competition with 11 freshmen out of 18 dancers.

They came away with 6th in the hip-hop category and 13th in jazz.

Sack said the jazz category was an extremely close competition, with only 11 points separating 13th place from first.

"They were upset because we all thought their performance was better than that," Sack said. "They're still an elite group of dancers."

The Steppers clearly are ready to improve even further on their strong performance, and Sack believes their attitude will get them a top five finish next year.

"We got back yesterday, and they were already talking about how they wanted to start practices up for the spring and get ready for next year," Sack said. "That way we can come back and show off that we are a top-tier team."

Track in full swing, has good showing

JASON KRAFT
Missourian Reporter

The Northwest indoor track season officially got under way last weekend at the Bob Devaney Sports Center in Lincoln, Neb.

The team competed in two meets prior to the holiday break. However, the Nebraska Holiday Inn Invitational was the first time the 'Cats would have their full team.

Head coach Scott Lorek described the meet as one of the best opening meets one of his teams has ever had.

"We were really solid across the board, from distance runners to throwers to jumpers to sprinters, we were very pleased," Lorek said.

This meet allowed Northwest to compete against Division I schools around the Midwest.

"The advantages of the Division I presence is the competition," Lorek said. "We are always looking for the most competitive meets to develop our people."

Individually, two athletes hit NCAA provisional-qualifying marks.

Junior Will Haer got an NCAA provisional in the pole vault with a height of 15.6 feet. Haer finished seventh overall and first among Division II competitors.

The other provisional qualifier was Junior Lakiesha McKnight with her distance of 44.3 feet in the shot put. McKnight placed third overall, missing second by less than an inch.

The NCAA sets both provisional and automatic marks prior to the beginning of the season.

Automatics are set very high, so very few people make them. If not enough people qualify for the NCAA Championships automatically; the spots are filled with provisional qualifiers.

Senior Ryan Darling was just over a second away from the provisional qualifying mark in the mile at 4:16:23.

"Ryan Darling was the only runner in the top seven not from a Division-I school," Lorek said. "Here is an example of where the better competition helped. If they were not there he probably would not have run as fast."

The 'Cats were well represented in the women's 3000-meter run. Lorek described it as the best races of the athletes' lives.

Sophomore Jordan Esry, senior Madison Marshman, and freshman Anne Herbert placed fourth, fifth and sixth, respectively.

Northwest will return to the track this weekend when they visit Lincoln, Neb. again for the Nebraska Wesleyan Invitational.

"This is another check mark for us, our goal is to peak at the right time," Lorek said. "We might move some people around and have them do some different events. All with the idea of preparing for their best event later on."

Men grab win at home, hit road for 3 straight games

JASON LAWRENCE
Sports Editor

After another big home win, the Bearcats are on the road for their next three contests and four of the next five games.

"It's going to be a really tough grind this next few weeks here," senior forward Jake Reinders said. "We're going to really have to buckle down in practice and keep that focus and not try to overlook each game."

The 'Cats have struggled at times on the road, especially with coming out strong.

Northwest trailed by as many as 15 points against Central Missouri on Jan. 11 and tied it up with just over two minutes to go in the game before falling by three points, 63-60.

Starting games with the same energy and aggressiveness as they open the second half with, is something the 'Cats want to start doing more, especially on the road.

"I just think we need to come out together and focused," junior point guard DeShaun Cooper said. "If we come out together and focused like we do in the second half against teams, then we shouldn't have a problem on the road."

Back at home last Saturday, Reinders had a career-game, pouring in 28 points and hauling down 12 rebounds, leading Northwest past Southwest Baptist, 78-55.

"I thought he did a great job. Our guys did a great job of giving him the ball," head coach Ben McCollum said. "He was due for a kind of a game like that where he broke out and really scored and rebounded well."

The Bearcats traveled to Joplin last night to take on No. 16 Missouri Southern and two of the top three scorers in the MIAA in Keane Thomann and Jason Adams.

"I think Keane Thomann is one of the best players in the league,"

McCollum said. "He might be one of the best players in Division II...He's as good as they get. He's going to be extremely difficult to stop."

"Adams hits some of the toughest shots I've seen in the MIAA, so with him it's really limiting his easy looks."

Thomann leads the MIAA with 21.6 points per game and is third in rebounding at 8.3 boards a game.

Adams is third in the conference in scoring at 18.9 points per game as well as third in assists at 5.1 per contest and fifth in steals.

McCollum has not beat Southern as a head coach, and the Lions have won the last five meetings.

"We have to get off to a good start," Reinders said. "Often we go in there and we look at their jerseys and it says 'Southern,' and we get scared. We know the name. We can't be afraid of them. We have to go in there and play like we know how and play Bearcat basketball."

Results were unavailable as of press time.

On Sunday, Northwest hits the road again and heads to Emporia, Kan., for a matchup with Emporia State.

The Hornets swept the season series last season, but Northwest handled the Hornets 68-63 back on Nov. 30.

"We're just going to have to guard them like we did the first time around," McCollum said. "Guard them and hopefully find ways to score."

With a 7-2 conference record, the 'Cats are closing in on punching their tickets to the postseason.

"It takes a lot of pressure off of you," McCollum said. "You're not playing with any fear of losses anymore, and that helps."

"But we still haven't made it. You just have to continue to grow and get better and win the next game."



AMANDA MONROE | NW MISSOURIAN
Junior point guard DeShaun Cooper takes a jump shot against Southwest Baptist on Saturday at Bearcat Arena. Cooper contributed 15 points in the 78-55 victory.

Women taking steps in right direction, defense sparks improvements

DALTON VITT
Chief Reporter

After winning two of its last three games before traveling to Missouri Southern last night, the women's basketball team has started to take steps in the right direction.

One of those wins came against Southwest Baptist on Jan. 14.

Northwest battled throughout the first half and took a one-point lead into halftime.

During the second half, Northwest stepped up their defense and took a commanding lead after going on a 14-0 run with 10:17 to play.

"The first half, we played too

much zone all the time or too much man all the time," Northwest head coach Gene Steinmeyer said. "But we kept them off balance by changing more in the second half."

Senior guard Abby Henry led all scorers with 30 points and also contributed four assists.

Junior forward Emily Hauder, who saw limited action throughout the course of the season, gave Northwest 12 points in 12 minutes.

Hauder believes that improved defensive play is what has carried the Bearcats the past few games.

"We actually have been trying a lot of defenses," Hauder said. "It

switches from man to zone almost every possession, and it's been helping a lot."

Results for last night's matchup at Missouri Southern were unavailable as of press time, but Steinmeyer recognized the importance of that game, as well as the Southwest Baptist game.

"I told the players, and I truly meant this, that this was the biggest game of the year," Steinmeyer said. "And now (Missouri) Southern is the next biggest game of the year because you can't, either on the road or at home, go against one win teams and lose if you're going to

make the tournament.

"We have got to beat up the teams that are in the lower third of the league, and then steal some from the upper third."

Even after transitioning from a nine-game losing streak to winning two of three, Steinmeyer said his team has a long way to go.

"We were in a groove last year in the postseason where every win was double-digits, and we did it the same way: quick starts, hold on til the last five minutes and put teams away," Steinmeyer said. "That's a groove. Right now, we're just surviving."

The main thing the last three games have given the 'Cats is confidence.

"It's helped, especially shooting wise," Steinmeyer said. "It's so hard to get out of bad shooting, but we're shooting the ball really well now."

Although Northwest has been able to partially turn their season around, Steinmeyer's team is not quite where he wants it to be at this point.

"We're just finding different ways to win games," Steinmeyer said. "But we only have four wins, and by no means have we climbed any mountains yet."

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CONCRETE JUNGLE

Former Bearcat tight end finds NFL success with Jets

CHRIS SCHOONOVER

Assistant Sports Editor

For most people if being suspended from college football, forced to transfer, not getting drafted and getting cut after finally being signed to a professional team does not discourage you, then there is something special about you.

That is the case for former Northwest tight end and current New York Jet Josh Baker.

"I can't compare it to anybody else's appreciation level, but considering everything I went through and the road I had to take, I definitely appreciate it more," Baker said.

Baker was suspended from the University of Delaware after receiving a "third strike" and left the program. He then transferred to Northwest where he made his impact known in a big way.

Baker was second on the 2010-11 Bearcat team with 66 catches, nine touchdowns and 838 receiving yards, while only starting 11 of 14 games.

The six foot, three inch, 244 pound Baker expected to hear his name called in the late rounds of the 2011 draft, but his phone remained silent.

"The best draft rating I had was at round six and most teams had me at round seven," Baker said. "I knew I was on the brink of missing out, but I was still hopeful. However, that really didn't pan out how I thought."

With the NFL lockout in full affect, Baker, along with the undrafted players, was forced to wait until July 27 to finally sign with a team. That team would be the New York Jets.

Baker was now sharing the same locker room as Mark Sanchez, LaDainian Tomlinson and Nick Mangold and looking for a spot on the opening-day roster.

Baker was listed behind one of the top tight ends in the NFL, Dustin Keller.

"He has a lot and with the position that I am in with the Jets, going back and forth from tight end to fullback, I've also learned a lot from John Connor," Baker said. "All the tight ends in the room; Matt Mulligan, Dustin Keller and Jeff Cumberland. Everybody watches each other run routes, and we all help each other. It's definitely a fun group to be involved with."

Baker was waived on Sept. 3, but was resigned to the practice squad the following day. After an injury to backup tight end Jeff Cumberland three weeks later, Baker was brought up to the active

SEE **BAKER** | A9

DESIGN | WENDY WHELAN



JULIO CORTEZ | AP PHOTO

New York Jets' Josh Baker scores a touchdown during the first quarter of an NFL football game between the New York Giants and the New York Jets, Saturday, Dec. 24, 2011, in East Rutherford, N.J.

MISSOURIAN SPORTS TALKS MADDEN WITH JOSH BAKER

CS How often do you play Madden as yourself?

JB (Laughs) I just got Madden the other day and that was the first thing I did. I dropped four passes though.

CS I have you on my team and you average one touchdown a game, just to let you know.

JB You have to be using me a better way. I had to put myself on the bench. Man, you can't be dropping passes like that in a game.

CS I put you out at a fullback ometimes and the split shotgun set. Then leak you out and throw it to you at the goal line, every time.

JB It's messed up that they got me at a 55 overall.

CS That'd be kind of weird. I don't know how I'd feel about that.

JB The speed was 78 though. I can't be mad at that.

@NWMSports

Clock hits zero on Tebow Time

TREY WILLIAMS

Editor-in-Chief

The clock has finally run out on the man, the miracle, the madness that has been Tebow Time.

Let's not act surprised that the Broncos lost in the postseason to Tom Brady and the Patriots. Let's not act surprised that after a dismal first half showing from both Tebow and the defense that he couldn't overcome a 42-7 deficit in the third quarter. However, let's also not act like the loss was all Tebow's fault.

The Broncos' offensive line had a very poor performance. Tebow was sacked five times, knocked down eight times and the Patriots had 10 tackles for losses.

A few weeks ago, Saturday Night Live did a skit in which Jesus came down to the Denver Broncos' locker room to tell them to start playing better because he's tired of helping in the fourth quarter. He must have taken Saturday off, because the only good thing about the game was that I got to watch it in high definition. Oh, and that Chad Ochocinco didn't play.

Now, I'm not a Tebow fan by any means. I don't believe that he is God's gift to football, nor do I think he is an elite NFL quarterback. However, I'm not someone who hates him for the simple fact that he is Tim Tebow. I think Tebow is a good football player, but I'm a realist. Did he have a good season? No, not unless the fourth quarter is the only one in which they keep stats. But somehow, he managed to help the Broncos to win games and even got them to the division championships. In my book, that's pretty impressive for someone who many thought would never even make it in the NFL.

Here's the reality of it, Tim Tebow started 14 games for the Broncos this season and had a completion rating of 46.5 percent and threw for 124 yards per game. I'll repeat, Tim Tebow completed 46.5 percent of his passes this season. There is no way a quarterback in the NFL can be considered an elite QB and not complete even 50 percent of his passes, and in my opinion, they shouldn't even start.

Somehow though, he managed to will his team to win games. There are some good things that came out of Tebow having a dismal yet productive season; everyone got to see how much of an idiot Skip Bayless is and all the simpletons who finally decided planking was no longer cool found "Tebowing."

Tebow is not a good quarterback, he is, however, a good football player and a great leader. If I were running a football organization, I would love to have a guy like Tebow on my team, but at not as a quarterback. Let's be honest, although numbers aren't always everything, 46.5 percent just won't cut it.

Hey, Mr. Elway here is my piece of advice. Keep Tebow on the team, guys would go to war for him. But sorry Tebow fans, I would never let him play four quarters at quarterback. I guess what I'm saying is, waterboy? That's a very important member of the team, fill it with pride Tebow.

Here's a prediction for next year, the world is suppose to end right? Well then, Tim Tebow will take the Broncos to the last Super Bowl played. Well, that is if he isn't the first to be raptured.

Royals connect with fans in preparation for season

DALTON VITT

Chief Reporter

On Jan. 15, about 70 Royals fans of all ages got the opportunity to meet a few of their heroes.

Maryville radio station 97.1 The 'Ville hosted one of the stops on the Royals Caravan at the Nodaway County Senior Center.

Jim and Joyce Cronin are the owners of 97.1 The 'Ville and helped get the station set up with the Senior Center.

"(Jim) is in touch with (the Royals) and always asking them if they would please come see us every year," Joyce Cronin, who is also the general sales manager of 97.1 The 'Ville, said. "And we have been very blessed that we have gotten them almost every year."

Joyce went on to explain that the Royals are the ones who set up the dates and times for their stops, and 97.1 The 'Ville was simply in charge of finding a location.

The Royals players and personnel in attendance were Royals Hall of Fame outfielder John Mayberry, designated hitter Billy Butler, pitchers Danny Duffy and Greg Holland and radio voice Steve Stewart.

Dave Riley, a local Royals fan, was at the event with his son, Owen.

"It gives (the fans) a personal connection with the players," Riley said. "It makes them feel like they care about the fans."

Fans are not the only ones who enjoy these types of functions.

SEE **ROYALS** | A9



LORI FRANKENFIELD | NW MISSOURIAN

Kansas City Royals designated hitter Billy Butler signs an autograph for a young fan at the Royals Caravan, sponsored by 97.1 The 'Ville at the Nodaway County Senior Center on Saturday.